

DIRECTIONS

The launch site is directly behind the imposing **Royal Mail Building** in **Toomb Street** in Belfast. The building has reflective bronzed windows and red window frames. Hard to miss! (GPS approx 54,36,20N/5,55,08W)

However, travelling from Dubs you will come down **OUR M1** towards Belfast using the new improved West link heading towards, **but not joining the M3**.

Stay to the right hand lane where the road starts to go downhill towards lights where there is a choice of M2 to left or M3 to right.

Go down the hill to the lights and turn right (sort of second right) under the M3 fly-over bridge and keep to the left.

You will see a sign for **Beggs and Partners** and a sign for **Bangor/Queen Elizabeth Bridge**. Stay left and in the left hand lane see Royal Mail Building to your left and **Albert Clock** in front.

Keep left, to the lights, this is **Waring street**, you will see a new building in front of you as you go round called **OBEL** which you should keep to your right while you keep the Royal Mail building to your left as you travel behind it.

In front of you, you will see a sign for www.steampacket.com, we are in behind.

If you find you have gone left off the West link and joined the M2 then do not worry, simply follow the sign to the **Fortwilliam Docks** Round-a-bout and stay right coming back into the city centre along the way you came on the M2 and stay in the Left hand lane for **Docks/city centre**, pass sign for **Duncrue street/Corporation street** and follow via Whitla street into Corporation street, go through traffic lights (**Pub McMahon's Bar**) to next set of lights then left at these lights where Direct wine shipments are on the right hand corner, you will see Building to front which says **Port of Belfast**. Turn in here, you have arrived.

DIRECTIONS TO THE ROYAL NORTH OF IRELAND CLUB HOUSE

From Dublin join the West link and travel towards and onto the **M3 motorway**, going downhill, through the lights and up onto the M3. Pass the **Oddysey**, which is to your left and head towards **Bangor**.

Go approximately 4 miles, through 5 sets of traffic lights and turn left into **Cultra Avenue**. You will have just passed **Hollywood** to your right in doing so.

The Yacht club is at the bottom of Cultra Avenue.

For those who first go to the launch site you can simply follow the signs to Bangor then follow as above.

LAUNCHING AND NAVIGATING TO RNIYC

Once launched, two crew members will take the boat out of the river into the Lough under supervision, while one makes the 7-8 min journey to RNIYC by car.

A launch/RIB will be on hand to collect crews on arrival at RNIYC and bring to shore.

It is imperative, (in accordance with class rules!), that you arrive with a fully charged VHF for use should it be needed within the Port of Belfast.

The harbour master must be kept informed of your movements at all times both in and out of the harbour on **channel 12** by using the call sign **Belfast Harbour Radio**. ie. " *Belfast Harbour Radio, Belfast Harbour Radio, this is Royal North Of Ireland Yacht SplashGordon, Royal North Of Ireland Yacht SplashGordon,*" then inform of your departure/arrival.

For boats without outboards, you will be escorted out of the river to channel marker 12 and there will be no need to communicate with the Harbour master as your escort will be doing this.

For boats with outboards you will be able to independently exit, down the starboard side of the channel, remaining within the channel, until channel marker 12, before peeling off to Royal north of Ireland which is at approximately 045 in direction, 2 nautical miles from the opening of the rivermouth.

PLEASE NOTE YOU SHOULD NOT STRAY TOO FAR FROM THE CHANNEL UNTIL REACHING CHANNEL MARKER 12 AS IT IS QUITE SHALLOW PARTICULARLY TO STARBOARD UPON LEAVING.

For any assistance the Royal North Ribs can be reached on Channel 37 and their call sign designation is Royal North patrol boat 1 and 2.

For exiting the Channel it just remains for us to state the obvious that to keep a careful lookout for shipping which has right of way in this confined area.

Additionally the HSS requires room to make a turn of 360 degrees as part of her approach!

RECOVERY

It is intended that we will complete racing and crane out somewhere between the hours of 3-5pm on Sunday. Prize giving is planned for around 5:30pm. Boats can be left in Belfast until your return from Holywood on route to Dublin.

Once racing is complete (which should be East of RNIYC, return to the RNIYC moorings area, and get the crew member with the car keys to jump on a ferry launch/ RIB, and collect car, to drive back to the launch site, whilst the other two sailors will sail/ motor back up river (port side of the channel) to the launch site (don't forget to VHF the Harbour Master)

You will be on the direct route to Dublin within a couple of minutes of leaving the Launch/recovery site.